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1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a one-to-one request from a client program to multiple instances of a server program over a protocol, said method comprising:

transferring said request from said client program to a multiplexor;

generating a plurality of protocol instances of said request using said multiplexor, wherein each of said protocol instances of said request corresponds to a different instance of said server program;

transferring said protocol instances of said request from said multiplexor to said instances of said server program;

transferring a plurality of responses from said instances of said server program to said multiplexor;

converting said responses to a uniform response; and

transferring said uniform response to said client program.

2. (Currently Amended) The method in claim 1, further comprising specifying target instances of said server program to form a fan out target list, to which said protocol instances of said request will be transferred.

3. (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said converting comprises selecting an operation to combine said responses.

4. (Original) The method in claim 3, wherein said operation comprises one of listing said responses, aggregating said responses, adding said responses, preparing a subset of said responses, identifying a maximum of said responses, identifying a minimum of said responses, and averaging said responses.

5. (Currently Amended) The method in claim 1, wherein said multiplexor automatically creates said protocol instances of said request.

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6.   (Previously Presented) The method in claim 1, wherein said client program, said instances of said server program, and said protocol are not modified by said method.

7.   (Original) The method in claim 1, wherein said unified response has an instance corresponding to said client program.

8.   (Currently Amended) A method of processing a request from a client program to multiple instances of a server program over a protocol, said method comprising:

    modifying said request to create multiple instances of said request, each of said protocol instances of said request corresponding to a single instance of said server program;

    transferring said protocol instances of said request to corresponding ones of said instances of said server program; and

    modifying and combining responses to said request from said instances of said server program to create a unified response.

9.   (Original) The method in claim 8, wherein a multiplexor alters said request to comply with each instance of said server program.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method in claim 9, wherein said multiplexor automatically creates said protocol instances of said request.

11.   (Currently Amended) The method in claim 8, further comprising specifying target instances of said server program to form a fan out target list, to which said protocol instances of said request will be transferred.

12.   (Original) The method in claim 8, wherein said converting comprises selecting an operation to combine said responses.

13.   (Original) The method in claim 12, wherein said operation comprises one of listing said responses, aggregating said responses, adding said responses, preparing a

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subset of said responses, identifying a maximum of said responses, identifying a minimum of said responses, and averaging said responses.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method in claim 8, wherein said client program, said instances of said server program, and said protocol are not modified by said method.

15.   (Original) The method in claim 8, wherein said unified response has an instance corresponding to said client program.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method of using a computer program to process a one-to-one request from a client program to multiple instances of a server program over a protocol, said method comprising:

said computer program to transfer said request from said client program to a multiplexor;

using said computer program to generate a plurality of protocol instances of said request using said multiplexor, wherein each of said protocol instances of said request corresponds to a different instance of said server program;

using said computer program to transfer said protocol instances of said request from said multiplexor to said instances of said server program;

using said computer program to transfer a plurality of responses from said instances of said server program to said multiplexor;

using said computer program to convert said responses to a uniform response; and

using said computer program to transfer said uniform response to said client program.

17.   (Original) The method in claim 16, further comprising using said computer program to specify target instances of said server program to form a fan out target list, to which said request will be transferred.

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18.   (Original) The method in claim 16, wherein said using said computer program to convert comprises using said computer program to select an operation to combine said responses.

19.   (Original) The method in claim 18, wherein said operation comprises one of listing said responses, aggregating said responses, adding said responses, preparing a subset of said responses, identifying a maximum of said responses, identifying a minimum of said responses, and averaging said responses.

20.   (Currently Amended) The method in claim 16, wherein said multiplexor automatically creates said protocol instances of said request.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method in claim 16, wherein said client program, said instances of said server program, and said protocol are not modified by said computer program.

22.   (Original) The method in claim 16, wherein said unified response has an instance corresponding to said client program.

23.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for processing a one-to-one request from a client program to multiple instances of a server program over a protocol, said method comprising:
    transferring said request from said client program to a multiplexor;
    generating a plurality of protocol instances of said request using said multiplexor, wherein each of said protocol instances of said request corresponds to a different instance of said server program;
    transferring said protocol instances of said request from said multiplexor to said instances of said server program;
    transferring a plurality of responses from said instances of said server program to said multiplexor;

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converting said responses to a uniform response; and

transferring said uniform response to said client program.

24. (Currently Amended) The program storage device in claim 23, further comprising specifying target instances of said server program to form a fan out target list, to which said protocol instances of said request will be transferred.

25. (Original) The program storage device in claim 23, wherein said converting comprises selecting an operation to combine said responses.

26. (Original) The program storage device in claim 25, wherein said operation comprises one of listing said responses, aggregating said responses, adding said responses, preparing a subset of said responses, identifying a maximum of said responses, identifying a minimum of said responses, and averaging said responses.

27. (Currently Amended) The program storage device in claim 23, wherein said multiplexor automatically creates said protocol instances of said request.

28. (Previously Presented) The program storage device in claim 23, wherein said client program, said instances of said server program, and said protocol are not modified by said method.

29. (Original) The program storage device in claim 23, wherein said unified response has an instance corresponding to said client program.

30. (Currently Amended) A multiplexor for processing a one-to-one request from a client program to multiple instances of a server program over a protocol, said multiplexor comprising:

a converter for generating a plurality of protocol instances of said request, wherein each of said protocol instances of said request corresponds to a different instance of said server program;

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and

a response combiner for converting said responses to a uniform response.

31. (Original) The multiplexor in claim 30, wherein said response combiner selects an operation to combine said responses.

32. (Original) The multiplexor in claim 31, wherein said operation comprises one of listing said responses, aggregating said responses, adding said responses, preparing a subset of said responses, identifying a maximum of said responses, identifying a minimum of said responses, and averaging said responses.

33. (Currently Amended) The multiplexor in claim 30, wherein said converter automatically creates said protocol instances of said request upon receipt of said request.

34. (Previously Presented) The multiplexor in claim 30, wherein said client program, said instances of said server program, and said protocol are not modified by said multiplexor.

35. (Original) The multiplexor in claim 30, wherein said unified response has an instance corresponding to said client program.

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